



DSTAR AND DCAP

GARY SKUSE, KA1NJL

At the October RARA meeting, Mike Moore, KC2NM and Gary Skuse, KA1NJL will tell us about the activities of the Digital Communications Association of Perinton (DCAP). That club arose in the packet radio days of the late 1980s and persists today with a club supported repeater on 2 meters (146.715) and a DStar repeater on 444.80MHz. Both are located in Perinton.

In keeping with the "D" in DCAP, the program in October will focus primarily on the club's DStar activities. DSTAR (Digital Smart Technologies for Amateur Radio) is a digital operating mode that enables hams to not only talk locally but to connect to other DSTAR stations via the internet. Along with the user's voice, a call sign and GPS-determined location is also transmitted. DCAP's primary repeater is connected to the internet via an agreement with the Monroe County ARES group and DCAP has committed to allow the use of their repeaters during emergencies or disaster preparedness drills.

The Internet connectivity that is a key feature of DSTAR enables users to set up "hotspots" at home or wherever they wish. A hotspot allows a user to connect to other users locally or globally with a low power HT via the internet. That HT connects to a local analog radio which in turn passes the digital signal to a modem that then sends it over the Internet to other connected radios. Most hotspots, including those used by DCAP members, use a Raspberry PI to coordinate network connectivity, among other tasks. It is quite a thrill to work someone in another state or country with an HT using 100mW of RF.

In addition to hotspots at user homes, DCAP has one located at an advantageous elevation on the RIT campus. Through the generosity of RIT's administration, and a memorandum of understanding between DCAP and the university, we have access to not only their rooftop but also to significant network bandwidth. The coverage of the hotspot at RIT is quite remarkable.

At the October meeting Mike and Gary will have a DSTAR hotspot and several radios for you to see. If things fall into place they will also demonstrate the wide area connectivity of the hotspot. Truly, this mode is very powerful.

OCTOBER 2015

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PREZ SEZ

WILL MULLANEY, KC2VSJ—RARA PRESIDENT

Welcome to this edition of the RAG and thanks for taking time to read my inaugural article in the Prez Sez section of the RAG. On September 4th, we held our annual business meeting, elected our new officers and directors, had our first Board of Directors meeting for the new board, and then moved on to a great presentation by Forest. My thanks to you for the nomination and votes; I know I can speak for all the members of the board to pass along their thanks as well. Additionally, I'd like to remind everyone about the stellar service our outgoing BoD members performed for us. Wendy, Gary, Jim, and Ross, you guys will be missed, and thank you again for all of your help.

This past weekend I was able to get some time working at Bike M.S., headed up by Jim Stefano (W2COP) and Ryan Tucker (W2XH), our Public Service Coordinator and Event Coordinator. Weather cancelled the 45 mile race I was going to ride as a sweep bike, along with the 100 mile event, but the 10, 30, and 62.5 mile rides continued on strong. It was great being able to help out the cyclists, especially in the heavy rain, and was good to spend a little time with other club members. Van (N2BNE) took some pictures, so make sure you ask him for a copy!

This coming weekend will be the Rochester Marathon, followed closely by the Fall Banquet. While this issue won't hit the virtual presses prior to the event, I'm looking forward to this year's banquet and hope to see many of you there. Other events coming up include Barktober Fest and the Fairport Lift Bridge Regatta.

Finally, in terms of things you can get out and do with your ham radio, check out the annual XARC – Fall Fox Hunt, Saturday October 3rd at 9:00am in Brighton Park. Scott Thompson (KC2ZQU) and I were fortunate enough to take first place in the spring, so I'm getting the honor of picking the hiding locations for the foxes. For more information, send me a message, or just head on over to the park with your Radio and a directional antenna. Don't have one? Build one with these simple directions: http://theleggios.net/wb2hol/projects/rdf/tape_bm.htm

73's

-Will Mullaney, KC2VSJ

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

OCTOBER 2ND - RARA General Meeting

7:00 PM at BSA Headquarters, 2320 Brighton Henrietta Town Line Rd

OCTOBER 8TH - RARA Board of Directors

5:30 PM RIT Engineering Hall, Room 2110

OCTOBER 17TH - RARA VE Testing

10:00 AM RIT Gleason Hall, Room 9-3139

PUMPKIN PATROL 2015

Brad Allen, KB2CHY

It is that time of year again that I start recruitment for Pumpkin Patrol 2015. Anyone involved in the last few years has been sent a heads up email. If anyone would like to become a part of this event, please send me an email at ballen@frontiernet.net or kb2chy@frontiernet.net with the following in the subject line in CAPITAL letters: PUMPKIN PATROL 2015. This alerts me to a folder that is setup only for Pumpkin Patrol. There is also a place to sign up on the RARA website as well as signup sheets that will be available at the September and October meetings. Everything is done by email. I give preference to those who have worked certain bridges in the past. I prefer people take both nights. This year Halloween falls on a Friday and Saturday evening. We have to be extra careful and alert this year because of this. Any questions can be sent to me via the email addresses above as well as my cell (585)216-5066. I do prefer email. You can also call 585-247-3724 and leave a message. This line is set up to take your message and send it to me in an email. There are plenty of ways to get a hold of me. I do work M-Th 10 hours a day so please use the messaging as I cannot answer calls at work. It does not hurt to sign up in multiple places for this event. I sort it all out by the end of October. This year, I would like to have final work done by the Third week of October. There are many hours of computer time I need to put in and at that point I would like to have all spots taken so any changes can be done quickly without sending last minute information at the last minute. Goody Patrol is an important part of this event. It is supported by quiet donations given or sent to me. We get fresh drink every night. We do not transfer or reuse anything that is considered perishable in two days. Thanks and let's have a great time again this year. Brad KB2CHY



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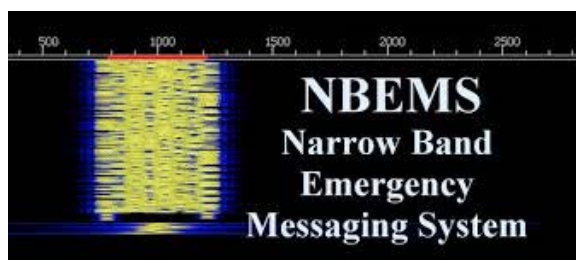
MONROE COUNTY ARES RACES EXERCISE TESTS HOSPITAL DISASTER COMMUNICATIONS

Jon Dickason, N2JAC

August 8th Monroe County RACES participated in an exercise with the NYS Dept. of Health. We simulated a complete lack of communications infrastructure, leaving area hospitals unable to communicate their status with their local emergency management office. This is in preparation for a larger drill in October simulating a wide area ice storm. MC ARES used FLDIGI software to transmit a custom hospital status form to the Monroe County Emergency Operations Center, where Dept. of Health officials consolidated similar forms from several hospitals and counties around western NY. At the RARA show-and-tell meeting the night before, some of us had our FLDIGI setups to demo to members and test our links to each other. FLDIGI uses some special modes that do not require a physical connection to the



radio, called Narrow Band Emergency Messaging Software (NBEMS). Using NBEMS we can enter a message on our laptop or smartphone, play the converted audio file and hold the speaker up to our HT's microphone. The message can be decoded on the other end the same way, by just holding the HT to the laptop microphone. It's like listening to PSK31 on your radio and having your computer decode it with its microphone.



For faster and larger data files, we do use a radio-to-computer interface like the Signalink. The form for the exercise is a two page report with many checkboxes. FLMSG is an add-on to FLDIGI for sending and receiving standard and custom forms like radiograms and ICS forms. Using this method we can send just the data in a form without all the extra words, significantly reducing the sending time to less than one minute. Sending the form as a PDF or fax image would take 10 times as long. The modulation modes use audio frequencies that easily go through regular voice repeaters. Some of our local hospitals have their own radios and antennas, and for those that do not, RACES members brought their go-kit radios.



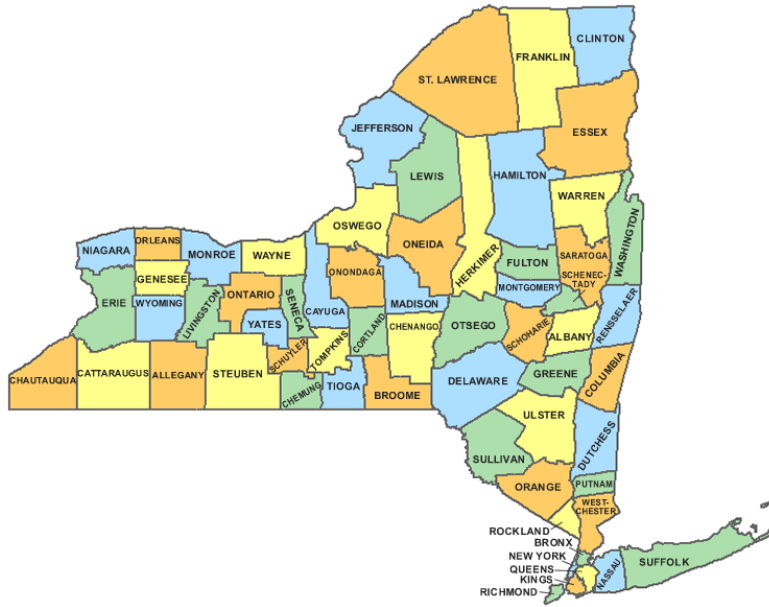
Saturday we had hams at four area hospitals that were able to send their status form to the EOC. We also received forms from other counties directly, and exchanged voice messages. We've sent shorter forms before for routine messages, but this is the first time we've tried to send this much data. We did have to experiment with FLDIGI's many modes to try and get the fastest

transmission without any errors. We've been practicing on our Thursday night net and with other NBEMS nets. We can also keyboard chat like RTTY. Monroe County ARES/RACES meets at the Red Cross headquarters on September 24th at 7pm, and Thursday nights at 8 on 146.61. www.monroecountiemcomm.org



2015 NY QSO Party

Rick, W1TY/W2RTY



Set aside the date: Saturday, October 17th, 10:00 AM Phone – CW – RTTY/Digital

Since 2009 Rochester has been the home of the NY QSO Party. This is a great opportunity to be a station that everyone wants to work. All stations work only NY'ers!

All the information you need such as rules, FAQ's and awards are just a click away... www.NYQP.org.



“But my station isn’t good enough.” **WRONG!**

There is lots of activity on 40 and 80 meters so signals (yours and theirs) will be strong. QRP stations have made almost 600 QSO's in the NYQP.

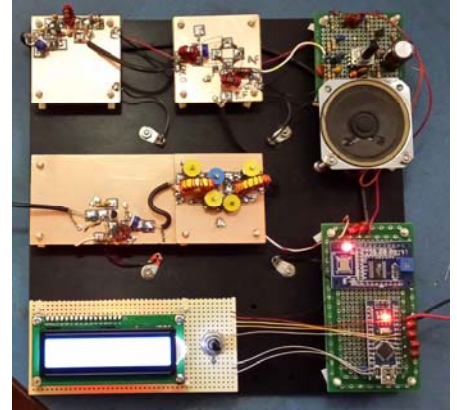
Work a few, work a bunch. Operate from home or grab a friend and mobile a number of Counties (only if you can deal with being very popular). Can you work all 62 NY Counties? Let's support the efforts of our Rochester friends. The fun is there waiting to happen! **CQ NYQP!**

BUILD IT

Forest Shick, WA2MZG

Last year at this time I provided information on building a CPO, Code Practice Oscillator, and the next month a straight key. My intention was to follow that with a simple receiver and CW transmitter. Unfortunately, at the time I had not found a suitable receiver project. Then along came the January 2015 issue of QRP Quarterly with a perfect solution – “Let’s Build Something” – a direct conversion receiver. Subscription information for QRP Quarterly may be found at www.qrparci.org. On the home page, near the bottom left, a copy of the January issue may be downloaded.

At the September RARA meeting, I presented a discussion of this simple direct conversion receiver. In the September issue of the RAG, Gary Skuse suggested that I might be talked into coaching a group if they wanted to build this receiver. I would be glad to. To be up front about this – you have to do all the work and I just do the coaching!



To help you get started, let me provide a list of some of the web sites I used to get information and acquire components necessary for this project.

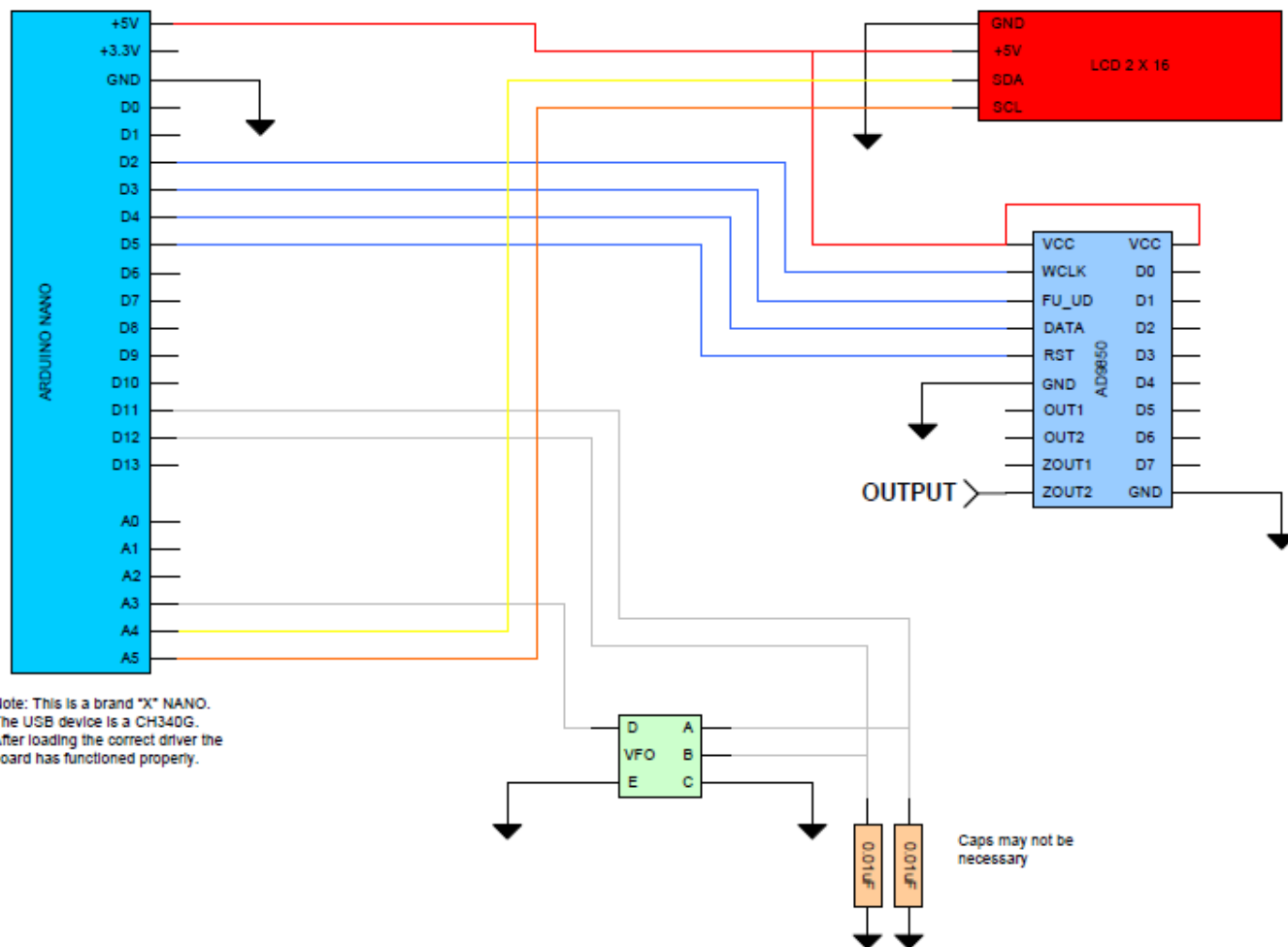
- The authors web site contains schematics, pictures, descriptions and lots of useful information
 - ♦ http://www.jessystems.com/LBS_Detail.html
- For the receiver, I used an Arduino Nano look alike which I purchased on eBay for \$4.10 including shipping. It had one drawback being that it did not use the same USB IC as the original Nano. This means you have to find and download the appropriate driver for your PC. If the device on your board is a CH340G, I have a driver I can email you.
- The DDS module, the VFO, uses an AD9850. I purchased this on eBay for \$6.97 with \$1.98 shipping.
- The 2x16 LCD and 10K potentiometer for volume control was purchased from Your Duino
 - ♦ <http://yourduino.com/sunshop2/index.php>
 - ♦ LCD Display Blue http://yourduino.com/sunshop2/index.php?l=product_list&c=41
 - ♦ 10K Potentiometer http://yourduino.com/sunshop2/index.php?l=product_list&c=40
- The toroids were purchased from Amidon
 - ♦ <http://www.amidoncorp.com/>
 - ♦ I did not purchase parts from Kits and Parts dot Com but their prices appear to be lower than Amidon
 - ♦ <http://www.kitsandparts.com/toroids.php>
 - ♦ You may also find the trimmer caps there for a reasonable price
 - ♦ http://www.kitsandparts.com/caps_trim.php
- Other components such as resistors, capacitors, semiconductors, etc. can be found from other sources such as:
 - ♦ Digi-Key <http://www.digikey.com/>
 - ♦ Jameco <http://www.jameco.com/webapp/wcs/stores/servlet/StoreCatalogDisplay?storeId=10001&catalogId=10001&langId=-1>
 - ♦ Mouser Electronics <http://www.mouser.com/>
- Another useful site, especially if you have never used an Arduino is:
 - ♦ <https://www.arduino.cc/>
- The rotary encoder, VFO control, is a Digi-Key part number: PEC16-4020F-S0024-ND
- One of the necessities for building this receiver are the small pads that become the circuit junctions. They are from QRPme.
 - ♦ <http://www.qrpme.com/?p=product&id=MES>
 - ♦ Some great pictures of building circuits using these pads and other techniques can be found here
 - ♦ <https://aa7ee.wordpress.com/2011/07/24/the-wbr-a-simple-high-performance-regen-receiver-for-40m-by-n1byt/> Scroll down the page.
- There are many YouTube videos to help along the way. You will find the videos by searching for Let’s Build Something. The author is Pete Juliano.
 - ♦ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GFZL8avwD3Y>

The one piece I found missing is a schematic for wiring up the Nano, 2x16 display, rotary encoder and AD9850. I have included my pictorial schematic of this circuit below.

LBS DIGITAL FOR DIRECT CONVERSION RECEIVER and SIGNAL GENERATOR w/AD9850 and 2X16 LCD

Forest Shick, WA2MZG

June 15, 2015



That should be enough information to help you get started. If you need more help, just email me. My address is listed in the back of this issue.

There is a follow on project that turns this receiver into an 40M SSB transceiver. If you start reading all the information on the authors web site you will see that he keeps making improvements. For the purpose of building the receiver just stick with the information for the receiver. Do not make any other changes. There will be plenty of opportunities to make changes and improvements once the receiver is working.

Scanning Letchworth State Park



**Jim Sutton
NZOPS**

Voted the number one state park in the US Letchworth State Park will soon become alive with the best of fall colors and great scanner listening.

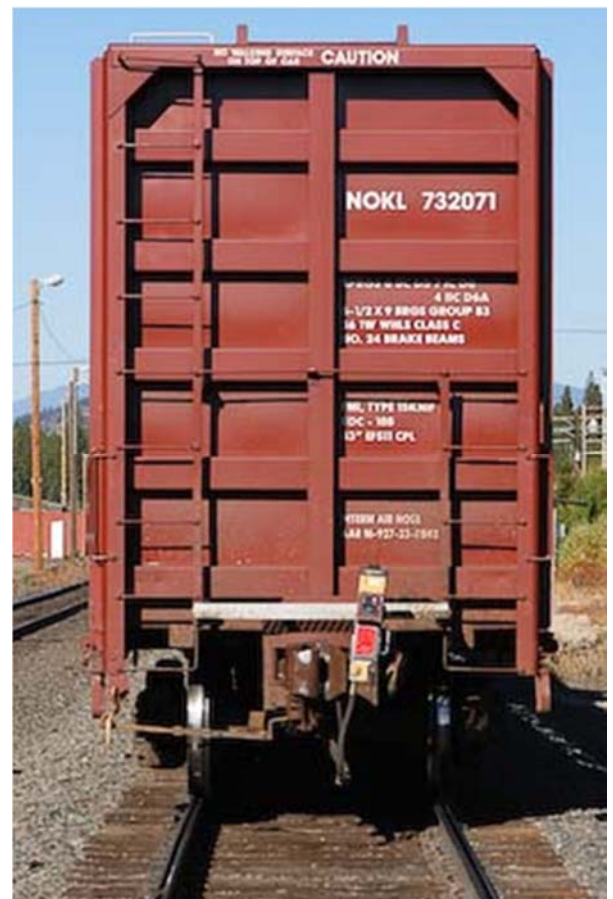
NORFOLK SOUTHERN RAILROAD

Many hope to see a train crossing the old trestle. With area cleared to its upcoming replacement there are great views. The scanner listener has an "early warning system."

End of train and front of train telemetry exchange data confirming that the brake pressure is up to par. These electronic "burps" can be heard every 60 seconds giving you advance warning up to 3-4 miles ahead a train is coming.

Front of Train 452.9375
End of Train 457.9375

Norfolk Southern voice communications are on 161.070 CSQ.



PARK OPERATIONS

Park operations are migrating from low band to UHF.

Old low band maintenance	44.92	151.4
New UHF maintenance	453.350	100.0
Park Police Repeater	155.430	110.9
Park Police Car to Car	155.430	203.5
State Police Car to Car	154.665	110.9
Livingston Fire	46.16	CSQ/123.0
Wyoming Fire	46.18	D114
Migrating to	155.670	82.5
Livingston Sheriff	155.595	107.2
Wyoming Sheriff	155.010	107.2
Rochester Weather	162.400	
Hornell Weather	162.425	



Until next time. 73 to thee.

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

Tim Barrett, K9VB, Membership Secretary

As you will have heard by now it's that time again! Time to renew membership dues for the coming year which starts on Oct 1st. Our membership stands at a healthy count of over 600 full and associate members. So far over 150 members are renewed for 2016 (thanks for your prompt response!)

Membership dues cover rental of meeting rooms and other essential running costs but we have managed to keep them at the same rate of \$15 (\$10 for Associate Members and Seniors) for another year. And of course if you have been awarded points for club activity, those can be put towards membership.

If you have not renewed yet, please take a moment to do so. It is easy to do online and you do not need a Paypal account to do so; just click on this link for [online renewal](#). You will need your access code (which is case sensitive) but if you have forgotten it just click here to [get your access code](#) and it will be emailed to you.

You can also renew at our next meeting or by mail (Send check to RARA Membership Secretary, PO Box 93333, Rochester, NY 14692). However, please do try to do it before the November meeting as that is our members only auction. I will be there taking membership subs but it is very busy and you may find long lines for renewals.

Peak The Grid

Forest Shick, WA2MZG



Contests

I ventured out on my first contest back in 197? with W2CNS and a bunch of guys from RF Communications for the VHF Contest. It was a great time. We traveled to Dover, Delaware in a caravan of cars, trucks, trailers and a bus. We brought lots of equipment including a large dish antenna and equipment to work 10GHz – maritime mobile – from a ferry.



As a side note to those who participated in this adventure: Do you remember the Long Life Spring Company?

My next contest was this summer for Field Day with the Xerox group. I also had a great time that weekend. It was nice to hang out with people who just wanted to play radio. Very little

talk of work or the problems of the world - just radio. OHH - and team effort - very cool!

The other day I had a very disturbing contest experience. I was not operating the contest, but someone was calling CQ New Jersey QSO party. He was getting a few contacts but not many. When he reached a time with no responses, I called him. He replied BUT as soon as he learned that I was from Webster, NY and not NJ he quickly told me he only wanted to talk to people from NJ and that was the abrupt end to the contact.

Yes – I understand it was a contest – but a simple and polite QSO wouldn't have hurt – he was not talking to anyone else. I was only running 10 watts so almost anyone could have over powered my signal but they didn't because no one was responding to him.

There is something wrong with the person and maybe with contesting when a simple contest becomes more important than a simple contact. If I had been a new ham, this surely would have turned me off to ham radio. But as we all know there are lots of good hams out there to talk to.

Morse Code

Most of the time, when I am driving in the car, I have my FM rig on. Occasionally I will talk to someone but mostly I just listen. Usually there is just dead air and I wonder why I spent the money on the rig and antenna. Once in a while I will announce my presence. There are only 2 people that usually respond.

A few weekends ago, while driving home from the Saratoga Springs area I heard some very interesting conversations. Discussions of antenna projects, setting up their shack and other “ham” stuff. Not the usual blow by blow description of driving from point A to point B or what they had for dinner last night. My 4 hour trip went by very quickly with all the interesting conversations. One group talked for so long, when they were done, they apologized to the other people listening to the repeater for taking so much time. Sharing that type of information - ham stuff - is what it is all about.

I have nothing against casual conversation - that is part of friendship building. But helping one another, sharing useful information, providing helpful hints - that is where ham radio used to be and should be today. There is sooo much more to learn.

There was one conversation on that trip that made me feel, well, sad, for lack of a better word. One person was explaining how he is paying for an online course to learn Morse Code. He explained the course and its learning requirements such as not touching a code key until he was proficient in receiving code.

Why was I sad? There are so many experienced hams who could and should be helping this person learn Morse Code. What happened to the spirit of "Elmering"? I really don't know this person's situation so I am on the outside looking in. It just seems wrong to pay to learn Morse Code!

Ham radio started as one person helping another and there is no reason that should not be continued today. Maybe it must be continued today because there are so many facets to ham radio, so many new ideas and techniques, so many traditions that should be continued. What are you doing to promote the hobby? To Elmer a new ham? To just volunteer to be part of something ham radio related? Public service, Emergency preparedness, Promoting RARA.

RARA RAGS OF THE PAST

Ed Gable, K2MP – RARA Club Historian

20 YEARS AGO, OCTOBER, 1995

This is the first time that this writer, and I've been doing this for 40 years, can remember a RARA Rag that did not open with a meeting announcement! "Program to be announced," was the only clue that something was going to happen. Len Gessin, WA2ZNC, writing for the Rochester Radio Repeater Association, told us about the new Kendecom Mk 4 repeater and 100 watt PA purchased by the club and now in the testing phase. New on the Cobbs Hill RRA site is the .88 transmit antenna at 130 feet and the new .28 receive antenna at 170 feet. Rag Editor Neal Eckhardt, WB2EKP, must have had a difficult time gathering articles for this issue as this was the only article, except for K2MP's 20 and 40 year report. Actually, the only Want Ad was also submitted by K2MP where you could buy an as new HW-101 for \$150.00. With regret it was reported that Benito Moneta NM2G, Howard Newman KA2EQT, Ray Berg, Sr. KA2TDA and Howard Keller K2GQE were reported as Silent Keys. Glenwood Sales of Hague Street remained a long time advertiser.

40 YEARS AGO, OCTOBER, 1975

The World of DX was the program for the October meeting where Ray Leigh, W2SNI, led a discussion of current DX affairs and

activities of the Rochester DX Association.

There you learned the top local DX'ers and

their confirmed country counts were; W2DOD 346, W2CR 345, W2SNI 340, WA2RLQ 328 and WA2EOQ 322. In an unusual format, brief news reports told of Harold Smith WA2KND, running for Vice-Director, ARRL Atlantic Division. Also that the Syracuse ARC is running a hamfest on October 11th, and not to be out done RARA already announced their 1976 Hamfest and VHF Conference date of May 22nd. Only thirty days into his new post, President Bill March, WA2CER, found the unpleasant task of asking the membership for donations to pay for the new SB-104 residing at the RARA Club station, K2JD. It was a super good deal for RARA, a rare factory assembled unit worth almost one thousand dollars and offered to RARA, after slight use at the Sister Cities Convention, for five hundred dollars. The members came through with generous donations covering the cost. Ron Jakubowski, W2HXP, wrote under the RRA banner a much needed lesson on how to properly identify your station when using a repeater. Good reading even today. Bob Moore, WA2JFM, put pen to hand and told of the latest plans of the very active Rochester VHF Group. The group has plans to enhance the station capabilities of members, and therefore results in the hotly contested January VHF Contest, by offering kits to build pre-amps, VHF SWR bridges, transmitting converters and more. From the Want Ads you could buy a set of Elmac Service Manuals for fifty dollars from Jim, W2HLF. CFP Communications, of Horseheads, NY, remained a long time advertiser.



the **RARA RAG**

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THE PREZ SAYS

The October general meeting will start at 7:30PM; this is one-half hour earlier than usual. This is a ONE TIME change to accommodate the people at the Henrietta Fire Hall who need extra time to set up for a wedding reception the next day. We wish the happy couple well.

Several members have asked why we cannot begin our meetings earlier every month; the answer to this is simple. It is nothing more than a question of manpower. The persons who set up the room for our meetings have day jobs, as do many of us, and frankly can't provide their services any earlier than they do now. Perhaps if volunteers come forward to set up the meeting room earlier, the Board of Directors will be pleased to reconsider the meeting time.

Sometimes the question comes up of why we meet on Fridays. While the answer to this is equally simple, it is not necessarily as compelling. In a word, tradition; RaRa has met on Fridays for a good long time. Does anyone remember why Fridays were chosen?

I have been told by some members that Friday evenings are devoted to family life; a concept not at all unfamiliar to me. After considering that most of the other local amateur radio clubs also meet on Fridays, it is easy to understand that family life can be stressed by overindulgence in the hobby. There are, however, ways to keep everyone satisfied.

Those of you that attend the meetings have seen children enjoying the evening out with Dad. Much to his credit, Keith Freeburg N2BEL has been able to incorporate the kids into part of the evenings fun. Short of opening a day-care center, we can try to keep them entertained (and well-fed) if you bring them along.

I have been asked to pass along the address to subscribe to the ARRL bulletins via the Internet. Here it is: info@arrl.org. Send an e-mail message to that address with the following three words, each on a separate line; HELP INDEX QUIT. You will

continued on page 2

RaRa MEETING

October 6, 1995

*****7:30 P.M.*****

Henrietta Fire Hall

3129 East Henrietta Road

Program to be announced

PLEASE NOTE THE TIME
CHANGE FOR THIS MONTH
ONLY!!!!

Howdeee

Your Board of Directors is looking for singles/couples interested in a great dinner and dancing to a live band or DJ at Rustlers Roost in Henrietta, during the week of Feb. 11, 1996. Please call RaRa at 442-0587 and leave a message with name/call, and number who would attend.

SILENT KEYS

Benito U. Moneta

NM2G

August 28, 1995

Howard Newman

KA2EQT

September 5, 1995

Raymond W. Berg, Sr.

KA2TDA

August 20, 1995

Howard F. Keller

K2GQE

May 27, 1995

The RARA RAG

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INCORPORATED

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OCTOBER 1975

NO. 2

DX - at October 3rd Meeting

Members of the Rochester DX Association, headed up by Ray Leigh, W2SNI, will present a program about the world of DX at the upcoming RaRa meeting on Friday, October 3.

Ray has worked 278 countries so far in his amateur radio career while Sax Ringler, W2SAW, has registered the 340 country mark. Some of the other top operators in our area are Elmer Grabb, W2DOD, 319/346; Roger VanWuyckhuysse, W2CR, 319/345; Richard Berg, WA2RLQ, 318/328; Corrie Unruh, WA2EOQ, 313/322 and George Robertson, W2AZX, over 300.

George operates the local DX stamp service. It's operation will be covered in the program.

For those who are active in DX already, note should be made that AC3 - Sikkim and Blenheim Reef became deleted from the ARRL's country list as of July 1, 1975.

CQ magazine publishes a list of DX bulletins and has a DX club department for information of the various country activities.

Local DX activities coming up will be a dinner to be held in a few weeks at a site yet to be announced. Those interested in attending the dinner should call Ray Leigh at 225-3776.

To learn what makes this corner of the amateur radio spectrum attractive to thousands of people, be sure to attend the next RaRa meeting on Friday, October 3. Meeting time and place as usual: 8 p.m. at the Monroe County Farm and Home Center, 249 Highland Avenue (across from Highland Park).

DUES DUE

This is the month of the year when all RaRa memberships expire. The expiration date is October 31. If you have not yet renewed your membership, plan to do so at the October club meeting or by mail.

Dues are still only \$5.00 regular; \$2.00 associate and \$1.00 extra for family membership. Life memberships are also available at 20 times the annual dues or \$100.00 at this time. Life Memberships may be paid in full or in four equal installments (quarterly). Life Members receive a special call sign badge, a certificate and freedom from future dues.

Members also receive a copy of the updated 1975-76 Rochester Area Amateur Radio Directory when membership is renewed.

RaRa Editor is ARRL Candidate

Harold Smith, WA2KND, Editor of the RaRa Rag for many years is a candidate for Atlantic Division ARRL Vice-Director in the current League election.

Take the time to complete the ballot you will receive shortly and return it to headquarters. Tell your friends in the Atlantic Division to follow your lead and elect a man who cares, Harold Smith, WA2KND.

Syracuse Hamfest October 11th

The Radio Amateurs of Greater Syracuse (RAGS) will hold their 11th annual Hamfest on Saturday, October 11 at the Syracuse Auto Auction, 4 miles south of Syracuse between Nedrow and Lafayette on route 11.

The usual hamfest activities including a flea market, speakers, forums, exhibitors will begin at 9 a.m. and continue until six in the evening.

Tickets are only \$1.50 if obtained before October 1. After then they are \$2.00. Mail orders go to: Al Brown, WA2UBT, 128 Atkinson Avenue, Syracuse, New York 13207.

AUCTION IN NOVEMBER

The program at the regular club meeting in November is an annual auction. Plan now to package the items you will offer for sale. Also plan NOT to come to our regular meeting place for the auction. We are unable to obtain the facilities for that meeting. Watch the November issue of the Rag for the announcement of the meeting place. Announcement will also be made on the local nets.

WNY Hamfest to be May 22nd

The Annual Western New York Hamfest and VHF Conference, better known to most people outside of our area as the Rochester Hamfest is scheduled for Saturday, May 22, 1976.

The Hamfest will be at the Fairgrounds as usual and the hotel headquarters this year remains the Rochester Marriott Inn.

Changes which will occur will be in a brochure to be mailed to all on our mailing list. The mailing is made around April first. If your friends want to be included on the list, have them send a card to Rochester Hamfest, Box 1388, Rochester, New York 14603.

VE TEAM INPUT

Ken Hall, W2KRH

VE testing for October will be on Saturday, October 17th at 10AM at RIT in the Gleason Building room 9-3139. Be sure to bring 2 forms of ID, one of which must have a picture, and both pencil and pen.

THE ADVENTURES OF ROBIN HOOD

AHHH - do you remember the old TV show Robin Hood?
The theme song is here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BbyYr6L5xQM>

Well, the show has not crossed my mind in years until I received an email from RSGB, Radio Society of Great Britain. They are announcing that there is a Robin Hood Award. It has nothing to do with a quiver full of vertical antennas or finding ingenious ways to string wire antennas in trees.

But if you are interested, check out this link:

<http://rsgb.org/main/blog/news/gb2rs/headlines/2015/09/18/new-robin-hood-award-launched/>



Which also reminds me that the Rochester VHF Group is sponsoring the Worked All Rochester Award. The contest is over on October 31, 2015. Here is the info: <http://rvhfg.org/pdf/articles/64.pdf>

If other local organizations sponsor activities, PLEASE, submit an article for the RAG - even if it is just a weekend event. The RAG has a very large distribution and may turn your simple event into a sought after event each year. With so many hams in the Rochester area and so many new hams each year, not to mention the areas technical talent - what a perfect breeding ground for this type of event. Oh well - Just a thought!

RARA CALENDAR

Tim Barrett, K9VB

~ October 2015 ~						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 SARL 80M QSO Party NCCC Sprint	2 RARA Club Meeting 7:00pm New Meeting location: BSA HQ 2320 Brighton Henrietta Town Line Rd	3 German Telegraphy Contest CA QSO Party Oceania DX Contest, Phone Russian WW Digital Contest WAB HF Phone (UK)
4 CA QSO Party WAB HF Phone (UK) Oceania DX Contest, Phone Russian WW Digital Contest	5	6 Phone Fray	7	8 RARA BoD Mtg 5.30pm NCCC Sprint	9	10 AZ, PA QSO Parties Scandinavian Activity Contest, SSB Oceania DX Contest, CW
11 AZ, PA QSO Parties Scandinavian Activity Contest, SSB	12	13 Phone Fray	14 SIARC 7.30pm	15 NCCC Sprint	16 BSA Jamboree on the Air	17 NY, IA, SD QSO Parties 10-10 Int Fall Contest, CW BSA Jamboree on the Air Worked All Germany Contest
18 NY, IL, SD QSO Parties 10-10 Int Fall Contest, CW BSA Jamboree on the Air Worked All Germany Contest	19 Run for the Bacon QRP Contest	20 RDXA 7.30pm Phone Fray	21	22 NCCC Sprint	23	24 CQ WW DX Contest, SSB
25 CQ WW DX Contest, SSB	26	27 Phone Fray	28	29 NCCC Sprint	30	31 ARRL EME Contest Russian WW MultiMode Contest

Print this calendar and leave it by your radio.

NEWS FROM AREA CLUBS

MONROE COUNTY ARES / RACES NEWS

The Monroe County Amateur Radio Emergency Service, Inc. holds its meetings on the fourth Thursday of each month. Anyone interested, members and non-members, are welcome to attend.

The next ARES Meeting will be held on: **Thursday, October 22, 2015, at 7:00 PM.**

Meetings are held at the **Greater Rochester Chapter of the American Red Cross HQ, 50 Prince Street, Rochester, NY 14607.** (Located behind the Rochester Auditorium Theatre, 885 Main St. E.)

ARES NET: Monroe County ARES/RACES meets on the air every Thursday of the month at 8:00 pm, on the 146.61 MHz (-) 110.9 Hz PL repeater. The only exception to that are nights when we hold our regular meeting, generally on the 4th Thursday of the month.

WEB: www.monroecountyemcomm.org

Severe Weather Alerts: Summer often brings severe weather in the form of heavy rain, wind, hail, lightning and thunderstorms. If you experience any of these forms of severe weather, and especially when accompanied by damage to property in your area, listen to your local ARES/RACES repeaters for information. While official ARES/RACES activation could be a possibility, it is more important that we open a spontaneous net simply to share information about weather conditions in your immediate area. Don't wait for someone else to do it. Pick up the microphone and start a net. If you don't have a copy of the directed net protocol, you can find one at the WEB address listed above. (Activities/ARES Net/ Net Script/ Downloads)

NBEMS: Want to learn about Narrow Band Emergency Messaging System (NBEMS)? It's the latest and easiest way to "Go Digital!" Bring your laptop computer and 2-M handheld transceiver. We will conduct an NBEMS clinic after every meeting through June 2016.

ROCHESTER RADIO REPEATER ASSOCIATION, RRRA

The Rochester Radio Repeater Association's next scheduled meeting will be October 16, 2015. Meetings are held on the 3rd Friday of the Month at the Pittsford Town Hall Basement and start at 7:30 pm. The October meeting program will be posted on RRRA's web site at www.k2RRRA.org.

It is my pleasure to announce the featured speaker for the October 16th meeting will be Yours truly. The Subject will be The history of the N2BZX repeater on 444.90Mhz.

I hope to see everybody there on the 16th.
Bob O'Dell N2BZX

ROCHESTER VHF GROUP

The Rochester VHF Group holds monthly meetings on the second Friday of the month between September and June. Meetings begin at 7:30 PM and are held at the Spencerport Wesleyan Church, 2653 Nichols St. (NY Route 31) in Spencerport. Visit our website www.rvhfg.org for details.

The Rochester VHF Group sponsors an informal On-Air Net every Monday at 2100 local time on 144.260 MHz USB and a 6 Meter Net every Thursday at 2100 local on 50.200 MHz USB.

More club information can be found by visiting www.rvhfg.org or just calling in any Monday or Thursday night. All are welcome to check in to these nets.

ROCHESTER DX ASSOCIATION, RDXA

September Meeting: Tuesday October 20, 2015

Time: 7:30pm

Location: Monroe County EOC Building, upstairs

1190 Scottsville Road, Rochester, NY 14624

All are welcome



XRX AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

The XRX Amateur Radio Club's next meeting is at 6PM on Thursday October 8th, at the Webster Recreation Center. We are also having a Fox Hunt on Saturday October 3rd. Check <http://xarc.us> for details.

SQUAW ISLAND AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, SIARC

The Squaw Island Amateur Radio Club (SIARC) meets every second Wednesday of the month at 7:00PM at the Ontario County Safety Training Facility, 2914 County Road 48, Town of Hopewell. We have License Exam Testing every other month which begins at 6:30PM with the regular meeting beginning at 7:30PM. The October meeting will be on Wednesday, October 14th at 7:00 PM. Guest speaker at this meeting will be Paul Kolacki (K2FX) who will be talking about his position as an ARRL Official Observer.
73's Steve Benton, WB2VMR

AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION OF THE SOUTHERN TIER

The Elmira Hamfest is the last Saturday of the month (September 26th). Tickets are \$8.00 at the gate. Don't forget. It's going to be a great time.

Help is still needed for the Wineglass Marathon Sunday October 6th. We have 6500 runners this year and could use as many communicators as possible. Contact Elliott N2OJM at the Hamfest and he can fill you in or contact him at: emergencycoordinator@arast.org.

COMMUNITY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB (CARC)

CARC is based in Orleans County (but serves all of Western NY) and holds meetings the first Saturday of the Month at 7pm, Alabama Full Gospel Church, 5329 S Gravel Rd, Medina, NY 14103. The club's focus is on emergency communications via simplex (When the repeater goes down, we're already on simplex!) and helping to ensure our community is disaster ready. Each meeting has a brief training/refresher period, and upcoming topics include: building a backpack 2m yagi, DTMF usage, and digital signaling. The club holds a net every Sunday evening at 9pm in the summer and 8pm in the winter (Monday morning 0100UTC) on 147.585 simplex, we'd love to hear you check-in! Take a look at the club website for more info: k2srv.org

WANT AD

WANTED: HF TRANSCEIVER Kenwood TS-440SAT or similar vintage. Must be in 100% working condition and have power supply and built-in antenna tuner.
Please contact Bob WB2CNC at rauerhahn@yahoo.com

THE AMATEUR'S CODE

Originally written by Paul M. Segal, W9EEA (1928)

THE RADIO AMATEUR IS:

CONSIDERATE	Never knowingly operating in such a way as to lessen the pleasure of others.
LOYAL	Offering loyalty, encouragement and support to other amateurs, local club, and the American Radio Relay League, through which Amateur Radio in the United States is represented nationally and internationally.
PROGRESSIVE	With knowledge abreast of science, a well built and efficient station and operation beyond reproach.
FRIENDLY	With slow and patient operation when requested, friendly advice and counsel to the beginner, kindly assistance, co-operation and consideration for the interests of others. These are the hallmarks of the amateur spirit.
BALANCED	Radio is an avocation, never interfering with duties owed to family, job, school or community.
PATRIOTIC	With station and skill always ready for service to country and community.

VISIT THE RARA WEBSITE!

Did you know that your club's website (www.rochesterham.org) offers these features and more?

- Photos of meetings & events (you might be in there!)
- Info on upcoming meetings/programs
- Rochester Hamfest information!
- Online membership & renewal
- Track and redeem your Reward Points
- Public service info & sign-up
- VE testing info
- Back issues of the *Rag* in PDF
- Officer contact
- List of past presidents
- Online membership directory
- Order RARA logo products
- Useful Internet links
- Ham Radio 101 – tons of tutorial info, plus net & repeater listings



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Contact us for details at editor@rochesterham.org.

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The above prices are **per year** - not per month as is typical in other publications.

Your advertisement will be seen by amateurs in Rochester, Monroe County, New York State, the United States and even the rest of the world. RAG circulation is approx. 8,000.



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For more information: Editor@RochesterHam.org

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NOVEMBER RAG DEADLINE

OCTOBER 15, 2015



**RARA meets at 7PM on the
first Friday of each month;
come join us at:**

Seneca Waterways Council, BSA Headquarters
2320 Brighton Henrietta Town Line Rd
Rochester, New York 14623

[Get Directions](#)

[Rochester Area Repeater Listing](#)

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